

In the Claims

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims are set forth below, whether or not an amendment is made. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for amending ~~information in a relational database system~~, the method comprising:

determining whether an instruction or operation adds an information entry to or removes the information entry from a relational database system, ~~wherein for an add entry operation, the information entry is first added to an 'out' table in the relational database system, wherein for a remove entry operation, the information entry is first removed from an 'in' table in the relational database system, wherein the 'in' table provides, during a search, an initial information entry identifier, and wherein the 'out' table provides a result of the search using the initial information entry identifier; and~~

amending, in accordance with the instruction or operation, the information entry in the relational database system by employing the instruction or operation adding the information entry to or removing the information entry from the database system, wherein:

adding the information entry comprises first adding the information entry to an 'out' table in the database system; and

removing the information entry comprises first removing the information entry from an 'in' table in the database system, the 'in' table comprising the information entry in a normalized format, the 'out' table comprising the information entry in a raw format.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information entry is added to the 'in' table after being added to the 'out' table.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information entry is removed from the 'out' table after being removed from the 'in' table.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising performing one entry operation of the plurality of add and remove entry operations if the instruction or operation is determined to be part of the modify entry instruction.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the instructions are implemented via a directory system such as X.500 or LDAP.

Claims 6-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A system for amending ~~information in a relational~~ database system, the system including:

a database using a plurality of tables, each table having a plurality of rows and columns, and storing arbitrary data;

a computer-readable medium;

means, encoded in the computer-readable medium, for processing an instruction or operation by determining whether the instruction or operation adds an information entry or removes the information entry from a relational database system, ~~wherein for an add entry operation, the information entry is first added to an 'out' table in the relational database system, wherein for a remove entry operation, the information entry is first removed from an 'in' table in the relational database system, wherein the 'in' table provides, during a search, an initial information entry identifier, and wherein the 'out' table provides a result of the search using the initial information entry identifier; and~~

means, encoded in the computer-readable medium, for amending, in accordance with the instruction or operation, the information entry of the relational database system by employing the instruction or operation adding the information entry to or removing the information entry from the database system, wherein:

adding the information entry comprises first adding the information entry to an 'out' table in the database system; and

removing the information entry comprises first removing the information entry from an 'in' table in the database system, the 'in' table comprising the information entry in a normalized format, the 'out' table comprising the information entry in a raw format.

12. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 11 being a directory services system such as X.500 or LDAP.

Claims 13 - 14 (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising using the 'out' table to retrieve a result of the search of the 'in' table.

16. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 11, further including means for using the 'out' table to retrieve a result of the search of the 'in' table.

Claims 17 - 22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information entry in the raw format is provided as a result of a search for the information in the normalized format.

24. (New) The system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the information entry in the raw format is provided as a result of a search for the information in the normalized format.

25. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information entry in the raw format includes the information entry as initially inputted in the database system, and wherein the information entry in the normalized format includes a searchable modification of the information entry as initially inputted in the database system.

26. (New) The system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the information entry in the raw format includes the information entry as initially inputted in the database system, and wherein the information entry in the normalized format includes a searchable modification of the information entry as initially inputted in the database system.